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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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09/788,053

02/16/2001

Jason Shepherd

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09/18/2006

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EXAMINER

STEVENS, THOMAS H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2123

DATE MAILED: 09/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



## **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 23-44 were examined.

### ***Section I: Non-Final Rejection***

#### ***Specification***

2. The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01. (page 8, line 13).
3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: pg. 7, line 17 extra period.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 23-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claims are function descriptive language that lack a concrete, tangible result.

### ***Section II: Response to Arguments***

#### ***Double Patenting/102(e)***

5. Applicants are thanked for addressing these issues. The rejections are withdrawn.

***Citation to Relevant Prior Art***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- US Patent 5,806,521 teaches imagining apparatus and method for use in presenting composite two-dimensional and three-dimensional images.
- US Patent 6,195,625 teaches a method for conducting a computerized simulation collision between objects.
- Jankovich et al., "The Graft Tool" An All-Hexahedral Transition Algorithm for Creating A Multi-Directional Swept Volume Mesh" pg.1-6: teaches sweeping algorithms in a 3D finite element analysis.

***Section III: Indication of Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 23-44 are an indication of allowable subject matter.
7. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).
8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: While Jankovich teaches (claims 23 and 34 "computer-implemented") a method of generating a mesh representation of a region characterized by a trunk and a branch thereon, the boundary surface between the trunk and the branch to substantially conform thereto; comprising:  
  
*(claims 23 and 34) determining a first trunk mesh; b) determining a second trunk mesh by adjusting the portion of the first mesh proximal c) determining a branch mesh from*

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*the portion of the second mesh within said boundary surface and the geometry of the branch.*


**Correspondence Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mr. Tom Stevens whose telephone number is 571-272-3715, Monday-Friday (8:00 am- 4:30 pm EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact examiner's supervisor Mr. Paul Rodriguez 571-272-3753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Answers to questions regarding access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) (toll-free (866-217-9197)).

September 12, 2006

  
PAUL RODRIGUEZ  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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9/15/06

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